

## **Budget for a Better Minnesota: Education**

## **Investing in Our Students Every Step of the Way**

Governor Dayton's budget makes major investments in education. The Governor's budget follows through on his promise to increase support for education every year he is Governor: no excuses, no exceptions. It also makes crucial investments in higher education to give our workforce the knowledge and skills to compete in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century global economy.

## Investing More than \$640 Million in Minnesota Students

- **» \$240 Million for Higher Education.** The Governor's budget provides: \$80 million for the State Grant Program, making college more affordable for another 5,000 students; \$80 million for the University of Minnesota and \$80 million for MnSCU.
- **» \$344 Million for E-12 Education.** The Governor's budget increases E-12 funding by an average of \$72 per student in FY2014 and \$339 per student in FY2015 through the following new investments:
  - \$125 Million for Special Education. The Governor's budget invests in special education reform, providing needed funding and greater funding equity for schools.
  - \$118 Million Increase on the Formula. The Governor's budget increases investments in the school funding formula, providing \$52 in new money for every student in the state.
  - \$44 Million for Early Childhood Education Scholarships. The Governor's budget provides scholarships that help 10,000 more children attend high quality child care and preschool.
  - \$40 Million for All Day Kindergarten. The Governor's budget invests \$40 million to help Minnesota school districts provide optional All-Day K to students free of charge.
  - \$10 Million for Teacher Evaluation. The Governor's budget begins a new teacher evaluation system that supports teachers and will result in better student achievement.
  - \$8.9 Million for English Language Learning. The Governor's budget extends funding for ELL from 5 to 7 years to help develop language skills for full participation in the classroom.
  - \$9 Million in Savings. The Governor's budget achieves savings through forecast and accounting efficiencies.
- **» \$4.5 Million for Regional Centers of Excellence.** The Governor's budget establishes six new Regional Centers of Excellence to help the state's most struggling schools, with a focus on Greater Minnesota.
- **» \$1.8 Million for Paperwork Reduction.** The Governor's budget permanently reduces special education paperwork, giving teachers more time in the classroom and less time filling out forms.
- **» \$1 Million for School Bullying Prevention.** The Governor's budget invests in a School Climate Center to provide guidance, training, and support to schools to create safer environments for students to learn.